

feasible transportation alternative for the corridor would hold the promise of increased economic development, improved air quality and safety and decreased congestion.

The conference report also includes \$1 million for preliminary engineering for the replacement of U.S. Highway 81 bridge at Yankton between Nebraska and South Dakota. This funding will be helpful in replacing an important bridge across the Missouri River. This funding supplements the \$1.125 million this Member successfully sought in the 1998 TEA-21 legislation.

Finally, this conference includes \$1.1 million for rail research to be performed jointly by UN-L and Marshall University in West Virginia. The funding will be used for safety research projects in the areas of human factors, equipment defects, and train control methods.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is well qualified to conduct this research. It has the necessary expertise in the area of transportation safety to provide meaningful research which will improve railroad safety. In addition, the nation's two largest railroads have a significant presence in Nebraska (one has its corporate and working headquarters in Omaha) and the state currently is traversed by the busiest railroad corridor in the world which move vast amounts of western coal to much of the rest of the nation. This funding will greatly contribute to safer rail operations throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, this Member supports the conference report for H.R. 2299 and urges his colleagues to approve it.

#### THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW YORK RECOVERY FROM TERRORISM ACT

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2001*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation to provide tax incentives for the revitalization of New York City, and in particular, Lower Manhattan.

We all know of the terrible events of September 11, 2001, the awful loss of life, the heroism in the face of adversity, and the physical devastation. This was an attack not solely on New York, but on America. In the weeks following the tragedy, Lower Manhattan has suffered greatly and the economy of New York City has been struck hard, it really is America that has been struck.

I cannot begin to say how much New Yorkers are grateful for the heartfelt response of their fellow Americans and people from all over the world. The prayers, the charity, and the promises of government support have all made an enormous difference in the ability of New York to begin to respond to and recover from the crisis. As one America we have responded to this dastardly attack in Afghanistan; across America; and, in New York.

Through this unity I believe that Congress should provide the tools necessary for New York to fully recover from the attacks and assure that the vitality of Lower Manhattan be sustained.

Lower Manhattan in 1624 was the first part of then New Amsterdam settled by Europeans. It has always been the heart of New York. It has been the entry point for millions of immigrants. Beginning in the 18th century and into the 21st century it has been the heart of finance in America and today the financial center of the world.

Unfortunately, the impact of the attack on the World Trade Center has altered the character of Lower Manhattan. Many businesses have had to temporarily move out of the area. It is unclear if they will return. Many businesses depending on the traffic in the area are suffering. Many other businesses are contemplating a move out of Lower Manhattan.

The City across the five boroughs has suffered as well. Revenues for the city and state governments are down significantly. Public institutions such as hospitals are suffering financially. Projects once thought possible are now on hold.

Funds provided through FEMA will help considerably. The appropriations Congress will provide in the supplemental bill enacted after the attacks will also help. Nevertheless, there are still unmet needs and uncertainty that must be resolved.

That is why I have introduced this legislation to provide tax incentives for New York's recovery. I am very pleased that my colleague from New York, Mr. HOUGHTON, has introduced H.R. 3373, which also provides tax incentives for New York's recovery. I have cosponsored the bill. I am introducing this bill because it offers alternatives to H.R. 3373 and will allow New York Members to support varying means to speed the City's recovery. It will also allow Congress to choose the most effective and efficient provisions for the recovery.

The provisions of this bill, are for the most part, included in the Stimulus Bill reported by the Senate Finance Committee. Two of the provisions would have been amendments to the Finance Committee bill had it been considered on the Senate floor.

The bill proposes the following:

A 20 percent wage credit to employers for the first \$6,000 paid per year to employees working in Lower Manhattan from September 11, 2001 to December 31, 2004. The credit is also available for wages paid employees by companies who were operating in Lower Manhattan on September 11, 2001, and have subsequently moved to another part of New York City.

An increase in the state cap for tax exempt private purpose bonds to \$12.5 billion for projects in New York City. The first \$7 billion of the increased cap must be used in Lower Manhattan.

A limited liberalization of the ability of issuers of tax exempt debt to advance refund existing debt. New York City, the Port Authority, the Metropolitan Transit Authority, the Municipal Water Authority and nonprofit hospitals would be able to advance refund bonds that had previously been issued to advance refund bonds where the original bonds had been deemed.

A special provision to allow taxpayers who lost property in Lower Manhattan as a result of the attacks to be able to expense the remaining basis in the lost property carried over to replacement property as the result of insur-

ance payments where the replacement property is located in New York City.

A one time \$5,000 nonrefundable tax credit for residents of Lower Manhattan (with no more than \$5,000 credit per residence). The credit would be phased out for those residents with incomes in excess of \$150,000.

I urge my colleagues, both from New York and the remainder of the nation to join together and help New York recover.

The nation will never be the same as it was before September 11. The relationship between New York and the rest of the nation will forever be altered by the attack on the World Trade Center. We are bound together as never before. Together we will rebuild.

#### PRICE-ANDERSON REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. W.J. "BILLY" TAUZIN**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2001*

Mr. TAUZIN. Mr. Speaker, in my previous remarks on this important legislation, I failed to note the important role that the Bush Administration has played in helping us get H.R. 2983 to the House floor. In particular, the Department of Energy's constructive guidance has been a real asset to us. In the course of our discussions with DOE, we have been told that the Administration has a number of concerns about the legislation, as reflected in the statement of Administration position. We will of course work closely with the Department to ensure that these concerns are addressed as the process moves forward.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE POETRY OF MISS SHEILA BRIDGES

**HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 4, 2001*

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, the following was written by one of my constituents, Miss Sheila Bridges. Her poetry is a tribute to our nation, which is still standing strong and proud.

STILL STANDING

(By Sheila L. Bridges)

America, America, Young and shy, growing oh so high, yet not too high, but still standing!

America, America, they hit You once, they hit You twice, but You are still standing!

America, America, they used their words of anger, hate and pain and did not forget their sticks and stones, but You are still standing!

America, America, some called and asked You to fight, live, stay, finance and/or on their shores with one hand and they ordered, told You to get out with the other hand, but You are still standing!

America, America, help me please; so You called and ask American's to stand and/or fight; each in their own way for